

Supplement No. 12.

GEO. MÉLIÈS

of Paris.

Cinematographic-Films, Life Moving Pictures, Comical, Magical,
Mystical Views, Trick-Films, Actualities, etc.



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No.	TITLE	Length about.		PRICE
		feet		
534-535	The Terrible Turkish Executioner, or "It Served Him Right" (<i>A fantastical burlesque with tricks.</i>)	150		\$25.50

In a public place in Constantinople, at the corner of a bazaar, the executioner is seated upon a stone and is resting from his deadly labors while eating philosophically a crust of bread. Suddenly there come running into the place a lot of Turkish men and women preceded by some Turkish policemen who drag along four prisoners in chains. The policemen shut up the four prisoners in a cage, an instrument of torture which is fastened about the neck. Their four heads stick up through the huge plank, which is provided with four openings. One of the policemen urges the executioner to stop eating for a moment and decapitate the prisoners. He, accordingly, seizes a mighty sabre of a ridiculously exaggerated length and cuts off by a single stroke the four heads, which roll upon the ground. After having placed the heads in a cask, he resumes eating his meal. Immediately the four heads, each with distinguishing characteristics, pop out of the cask one at a time to see what the executioner is doing, and in due order each one seeks its body and fastens itself upon it. The four executed prisoners thus reunited throw themselves upon the headsman, and in spite of his resistance one of them picks up the sabre lying upon the ground and cuts his body into two pieces. The four prisoners take flight after having thrown down the bust of the executioner. The two legs and the lower part of the body run frantically to the right and to the left, whilst the bust upon the ground calls to them with gestures of despair. Finally, when the legs, in their flight about the scene, come close to the bust, it seizes them and thus the pieces of the

"STAR" FILMS

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executioner are united. Then he calls the policemen who all, followed by the crowd, enter into the pursuit of the escaping men who will probably never be found. There is nothing gruesome about this scene, terrible as it may seem. It is simply ludicrous throughout.			
536-537	A Burlesque Highway Robbery in "Gay Paree"	153	\$26.00

The scene represents a street in Paris. A tourist comes along holding his guide-book in his hands while examining the monuments. Suddenly a cripple (in a cart) emerges from a street and asks for money. The tourist refuses and moves on towards a second street and there a second cripple appears. The tourist, in anger, avoids him by going to a third street and there a third cripple pops up. Then a band of beggars—all cripples—assemble from every nook and corner, and after surrounding the tourist importune him for alms. Then the beggars, all of a sudden, throw off their rags and old hats and leap out of their carts. In the twinkling of an eye they have been metamorphosed into a band of highway robbers who precipitate themselves upon the tourist, depriving him of everything except his shirt and drawers and jamming upon his head a garbage can. Then they hurry off with their booty. At this moment, while the traveler is trying to extricate his head from the can, some workwomen on their return from work come across the man. Horrified at this extraordinary spectacle they seek an officer. The latter comes upon the scene and attempts to drag to the station the gentleman who has been found in the street in such a state. The tourist struggles away from the police officer and sends him to the ground by dealing him a hard blow. But a soldier comes and renders aid, and the unfortunate traveler, robbed, beaten, and crest-fallen, is led away to the toils, followed by the workwomen. In conclusion, the highwaymen return and dance madly and merrily about.

538-539	A Moonlight Serenade, or "The Miser Punished."	185	\$31.50
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(A very poetical and moral subject.)

Pierrot has no money any more. Pierrot is destitute, Pierrot is sad. Pierrot is hungry. But before resigning himself to death he resolves upon a last effort. Taking his guitar, he plays a serenade under the windows of a rich lord, hoping thereby to soften the latter's heart and obtain from him a few pennies which he needs so much for bread. But the nobleman is a mean man, and because he has been disturbed in his sleep he drives Pierrot pitilessly away and even threatens him with his sword. Pierrot is now in despair for there is nothing more for him to do but to die. However, saying to himself "Who sleeps, dines" he stretches out upon a stone bench and dreams of the moon which he loves. His pale face is as white and as round as the *Queen of the Night*. In his sleep it seems to him that she approaches and that she assumes a human form, that she throws flowers at him and that she invites him to sit beside her. In his joy he seizes his guitar and begins a hymn of victory, but the nobleman, beside himself with rage at the sound of this new noise, comes rushing out of his house and hastens to strike Pierrot. But at this moment the latter leaps up and is wonder-struck to find himself in the arms of the moon which he loves while the lord is transformed into an old wandering beggar pursued by the "Eye of God" who has seen his wickedness and his avarice and has punished him for his cruelty.

The prince knocks at the door of his mansion for he would like to get back into the house but his servants, deceived by his sordid clothes, beat him unmercifully while the moon laughs at the severe punishment administered by God upon the man who has no kindness of heart.